Jury Committee Judicial Conference of Indiana

August 22, 2003 Minutes

- 1. <u>Members present.</u> The following members of the committee were present: Craig Bobay, Shelia Carlisle, Brent Dickson, Earl Penrod, Michael Peyton, and Ernest Yelton, Chair
- 2. <u>Staff present.</u> Michelle C. Goodman and Tom Carusillo provided the committee with staff assistance.
- 3. Guests. Dave Strantz and Todd Gould of Innovative.
- 4. Minutes. The Committee approved the minutes from May 2003 and July 2003.
- 5. <u>Jury Orientation Video</u>. Innovative presented the draft script for the orientation video to the Committee and gave the Committee a brief overview of the content and the creative approach contained in this script. Innovative explained that they envisioned the host/narrator to present the information in an enjoyable, yet respectful manner. Innovative also indicated the much of the filming will display events as prospective jurors would view them. Innovative also indicated that the transitions would be opportunities to recap information or emphasize certain information in order to break up the sections of the video. The Committee decided it liked this creative approach and then discussed how the talent for the host/narrator would be selected. Innovative indicated that they would interview people for this role and then bring some candidates to the Committee for further input.

The Committee gave feedback to Innovative regarding the opening scene. The Committee also made revisions to the content of the script. The Committee discussed how to incorporate the Chief Justice into the video. Innovative indicated that they would discuss some ideas and bring them back to the Committee. Innovative indicated they would revise the script based on today's meeting and provide the revisions to Michelle. The Committee requested that the orientation sub-committee review the revisions and make final recommendations to the Committee. Innovative will also prepare a schedule for production and provide the schedule to Michelle.

6. <u>Jury Pool.</u> Judge Yelton reported that Michelle is in the process of preparing a grant application to the Criminal Justice Institute for funding the jury pool project. Michelle reported that the grant application would be for one year in order to provide adequate time to develop and test the program. In addition, Judge Yelton reported that the potential involvement of the federal courts in this project is on hold pending the decision on the grant application. He also reported that it has come to our attention that there is a fee for the voter registration list from the Secretary of State's Office and he will be working with the Secretary of State to see how this issue can be resolved. Judge Yelton also reported that we have met with representatives from the Department of Revenue and there seems to be some movement toward providing jury pool information. Finally, the jury management project has been put on hold due to finances and time constraints with JTAC.

- 7. Rule Amendments. Judge Yelton reported that amendments to the Jury Rules were adopted and effective 8-1-03. The Committee also discussed how the rule amendments affected grand jurors, specifically the term of service. Rule 9 does not define the term of service for grand jurors. The Committee decided to post a question and answer on the Frequently Asked Questions on the web page to state that the service of grand jurors was governed by statute rather than sending a memorandum. Michelle was asked to draft the question and answer.
- 8. <u>Ohio Jury Management Conference.</u> Michelle provided the Committee with a written report and briefly highlighted important information from each session.
- 9. Other Business. Judge Yelton reported to the Committee that he and Michelle had addressed a question concerning the release of juror addresses after trial to an attorney who wanted to thank jurors for their service when the court had redacted that information prior to trial. The response was that the court policy seemed proper and that if such information was released it should be released to both attorneys.

Judge Yelton also reported that Judge Carlisle, Judge Hughes, and himself would be speaking at the September Conference on the Jury Rules and topics that will be discussed. The Committee did not have any additional content suggestions.

Michelle briefly highlighted some news articles that were distributed that may be of interest to the Committee.

10. <u>Next Meeting</u>. The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, November 7, 2003 at 11:00 a.m. at the Judicial Center.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michelle C. Goodman